

HCS#2 HB 1213 -- STATE AGENCIES

SPONSOR: Cierpiot (Franklin)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Transportation Funding and Public Institutions by a vote of 9 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding the Bi-State Development Agency, vacation leave for state employees, Department of Revenue Fee Offices, and conveyance of certain state property and establishes the Missouri Advisory Boards and Commissions Association.

REIMBURSEMENTS TO BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

A person who is convicted, pleads guilty, or pleads nolo contendere for failing to pay the proper fare, fee, or other charge for the use of facilities and conveyances of the Bi-State Development Agency is required to reimburse, in addition to the unpaid fare or charges and any fines, penalties, or sentences imposed by law, the costs attributable to the enforcement, investigation, and prosecution of the offense by the agency in the amount will be set by the court. The court must direct the reimbursement proceeds to the appropriate agency official.

VACATION LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES

The substitute specifies that any state employee who works 10-hour days and 40 hours per week cannot be required to take two hours of vacation leave for paid holidays. The employee must have the option to receive compensation only for an eight-hour work day for any paid holiday.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FEE OFFICES

Currently, the Director of the Department of Revenue must give priority to a tax-exempt organization or a political subdivision when awarding a fee office contract in the competitive bidding process. The substitute requires the department director to give priority to a tax-exempt organization and an entity whose primary administrative office is located within the county, legislative district, or senatorial district as the fee office bid upon. Organizations which are registered with the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(19) designation, which include posts or organizations of past or present members of the armed forces, are added to the list of organizations that are to be given priority in the bidding process.

A point preference award process is established to give

preference to organizations and entities currently operating a fee office, organizations and entities which have operated fee offices in the past, and to those organizations and entities with lower administrative costs.

An organization which is awarded a fee office will be required to submit to the department certain specified financial records and a list of the charities benefitting from the fees collected. It must also prominently display a list of all benefitting charities from the collected fees at its business location.

MISSOURI ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ASSOCIATION

The substitute establishes the Missouri Advisory Boards and Commissions Association which allows current and former members of various statewide advisory boards and commissions and board of curators and regents of state colleges and universities to join together in a formal organization. The purpose of the association is to provide a framework to share observations and insights derived from their participation as board or commission members to study and discuss matters of statewide importance and make recommendations as requested to the General Assembly, Governor, and Lieutenant Governor.

Membership in the association is purely voluntary and members will serve without compensation.

CONVEYANCES OF STATE PROPERTY

The substitute authorizes the Governor to convey specified state property located in Macon, Cooper, Cole, St. Louis, Buchanan, Pettis counties and the City of St. Louis.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill requires the Department of Revenue to give priority to organizations located in the community where the fee office is located so that the revenues will stay in the community and create a local benefit.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Franklin; and Selynn Barbour, Camdenton School Board.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.